

WEST LINN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS MEETING

MEETING NOTES

September 23, 2021

7:00 PM – Via Zoom Video Conference

Attendees:

Ed Schwarz, President Savanna Oaks NA and NAP Chair

Karie Oakes, President, Marylhurst NA & NAP Vice-Chair

Abby Farber, President, Rosemont Summit NA & NAP Secretary

Kathie Halicki, President, Willamette NA

Lydia Renner, Keisha Omlid, Co-Presidents, Skyline Ridge NA

CJ Koll, President Hidden Springs NA

Robert Jester, President, Barrington Heights, Hidden Creek Estates, & Tanner Woods Subdivisions NA

Bob McCarthy, President, Bolton NA

Other Guests: Jenn Aberg and Samantha Faile, residents of Willamette neighborhood, Lucinda

Broussard, Arella Cahlin, Heather Wills and Chris Wellander, Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) representatives, John Williams, Assistant City Manager

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by NAP Chair Ed Schwarz. A quorum of members was present.
2. **Approve Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda; a vote was taken to approve it and passed unanimously.
3. **Introduction of Skyline Ridge NA's new co-presidents:** Lydia Renner and Keisha Omlid were introduced and welcomed to the NAP.
4. **Approve meeting notes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting notes for the July 2021 NAP meeting. A discussion ensued with suggestions made for minor grammatical corrections; a vote was taken to approve the minutes with the corrections made. The vote passed unanimously.
5. **Community Comments** Jenn Aberg and Samantha Faile, residents of the Willamette neighborhood provided comments about two issues in the area – that the Planning Department had proposed changes to accommodate development of land in the areas of Fourth and Fifth Avenues in Willamette. The changes were to create a partition and push-through to connect Ninth and Tenth streets via a connection using a non-existent street at Fourth Avenue. According to both residents, neighbors are against these plans and are concerned about truck parking, danger to pedestrians, danger to cars at intersections, potential flooding due to additional asphalt, as well as impingement on private property.
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. **NAP Officer Elections:** Nominations were made for the positions of President, Vice President and Secretary, of Ed Schwarz, Karie Oakes, and Abby Farber respectively. A voice vote was held, and all candidates were approved unanimously.

Chair – Ed Schwarz (Savanna Oaks) | Vice Chair – Karie Oakes (Marylhurst) | Secretary – Abby Farber Rosemont Summit)

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- b. **Portland Golf Classic:** NAP members commented that they had not heard of any issues occurring as a result of the event; the rain might have kept the spectators away. Reports from the West Linn Main Street merchants indicated they felt they had a busy weekend. All NAP members agreed they were glad that traffic did not make a big issue.
- c. **NAP meeting location for November** – Members agreed that meetings should remain remote, using Zoom.
- d. **Oppenlander Field Status:** Assistant City Manager John Williams started off this discussion with information about an upcoming meeting among representatives from West Linn and Oregon City Council Members and ODOT's Region 1 manager. Re Oppenlander field, Mr. Williams noted that the current status was that the WLWV District and the City of West Linn have reached agreement to send purchase of the field to voters in May of 2022. Needed improvements to the site might include paving the parking lot, adding restroom facilities, ADA-compliant pathways, irrigation and drainage improves and others. Cost estimates may be available in September of 2021; discussion at the Council level in October-November, polling residents online <which has commenced in November 2021. NAP members had questions and suggestions that included why taxpayers were essentially paying for the land twice (once in the 1970s and now in 2022), suggestions that the ballot measure wording address the double-payment issues, hiring someone to do an environmental and traffic study.
- e. **Discussion of Notice of Upcoming Planning Manager decision for WAP-21-01/WRG-21-01/MISC-21-02, Water Resource Area permit, a Willamette River Greenway permit, and a Flood Management Area permit to widen I-205 from the 10th Street interchange to the Abernathy Bridge and perform a Phase II seismic retrofit of the bridge.** NAP President Ed Schwarz added this to the agenda so that members would be aware that City Staff had decided that the City Planning Measure (and not the Planning Commission) would oversee this. He feels that this is significant enough and has a large enough impact that more people should be involved in this. Various aspects of this issue were discussed, including whether what was decided (Planning Manager only decision) was legal, and how an appeal might be managed.

7. New Business

- a. **Presentation from ODOT and Q&A on the I-205 tolling project.** Representatives from ODOT made a presentation about the project. ODOT indicated that the tolling program goal is to manage congestion and generate revenue. Issues such as time-based and income-based tolling, public engagement, analyses, impacts, and benefits were discussed. Questions from NAP members including how local traffic might increase due to drivers avoiding tolls, how pollution, especially near schools might increase, specific impact on residents, inequitable tolling of residents of Oregon City, Gladstone, and West Linn. (The presentation is available in files shared after the meeting.)

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- b. **Discussion of NAs sharing video conferencing accounts:** Some NAP Presidents indicated that they'd be interested in pursuing shared accounts; others were concerned that this might create confusion if two NAs were trying to use the same account at the same time. Abby Farber volunteered to check in with Shayne Boyle, the IT coordinator with the City, to see if NAs could make use of the City's WebEx account. She will also write a short memo about using Google's and Microsoft's video conferencing products.
- c. **City Manager's offer for door-to-door outreach:** The City Manager, Jerry Gabrielatos, has offered to work with any NA interested in boosting neighborhood participation in the NA. He's a former community organizer from Chicago who implemented door-to-door outreach work which increased participation in NAs there.

8. Other Items of Interest:

- a. Update on Committee for Citizens' Involvement activity. Ed Schwarz is assigned to serve on the CCI. The CCI has been focused on House Bill 2001 which involves "middle housing" and is not yet focusing on HB 2003. At the last CCI meeting, City information materials (handouts, presentation materials, etc.) were approved and will go to the City Council for final approval. NAP members and Ed requested that the next version differentiate among the pros and cons of various options. It was also suggested that residents start looking at these materials and any surveys now, as the sooner one gets involved the better, as by the time rules are drafted it's very hard to turn the process around.
- b. **Update from City Council Liaison** – Councilor Relyea was not in attendance.

9. Items of Interest from NAP members:

Bolton NA – President Bob McCarthy noted that BNA has taken on the issue of poor conditions of Highway 43; they held a meeting with Rachel Prusak, Lance Calvert, Jerry Gabrielatos, and others. Lance Calvert and the supervisor of ODOT maintenance will look at the road, will look at sections that can be resurfaced or patched and will see if that makes a difference. BNA also held an ice cream social that attracted 70 people. The BNA was contacted by residents living in the Sunset neighborhood about a possible merger with BNA. BNA will be posting a survey about "hot topics" on their NA web site. He also discussed that members have asked the WLWV School District to complete four projects around the high school that effect the stadium and parking. Bob suggested that if other NAs wanted to get involved in the Highway 43 and tolling projects that BNA would be happy to work as a collective. Ed Schwarz commended Bob and the BNA for their work on Highway 43.

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Barrington Heights, Hidden Creek Estates, & Tanner Woods Subdivisions: Robert Jester, President, noted that the City was very pessimistic about the costs of replacing street trees and paying for this out of the city budget as there were other expenses the City had to pay for. Ed Schwarz noted he would reach out to Jerry Gabrielatos about this, as many residents are assuming the City will be paying for stump removal and tree replacement.

The meeting had run over time at this point; NA's that had not had a chance to report were requested to submit their comments to Abby Farber for inclusion in these notes.

10. Next meeting, November 18th, 2021

11. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM by Chair Ed Schwarz.